PROPOSITIONS MADE BY MONSIEVR VANDER HVRST AT THE Assembly of the Generall States of the *Vnited Prouinces vpon the* 13. *of* Ianuarie, 1608.

WITH THE ANSWER OF THE sayd Generall States giuen vnto the sayd *Monsieur Vander Hurst*, touching the said Propositions.

And also

A DECLARATION MADE AND SENT by the said States Generall vnto all the Prouinces and Townes vnder their gouernment, touching Peace to be made: Printed 1608.

The finall Answer made by the said Generall States of the Vnited Prouinces vnto the Commissioners for the King of *Spaine* and the Archduke, assembled in the *Hague*, concerning Peace to be made, 1608.

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Wh. Kennett

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PROPOSITIONS

Made by *Monſieur Vander Hurſt* at the Aſſemblie of the Generall States *of the Vnited Prouinces*, vpon the 13. of Ianuarie, 1608.

RIght honourable, May it pleaſe you to be aduertiſed, that foraſmuch as that the high and mightie Princes, the Archduke *Albertus* and the Infanta *Iſabella*, haue long ſince had and conceiued great diſliking of and concerning the bloodie Netherland warres, as alſo of the great hurt, hinderance and vtter deſtruction, which the Inhabitants thereof on both ſides do thereby endure and dayly fall into; and had rather ſee and behold the Netherlands (being brought to a firme and moſt aſſured Peace) to recouer their ancient and priſtinate flouriſhing eſtate; haue not refrained both now and heeretofore to ſignifie vnto your Honours, not only by themſelues but by their meſſengers, what meanes they thought to be moſt fit to worke the ſame: as in May laſt they ſent me hither only to that end and purpoſe. But for that your Honours (in regard of the departure of Prince *Maurice*, with ſome of your Honours Deputies from the *Hague*, about your martiall affaires) could not reſolue thereon, their High-

beare armes, and till this time to make and maintaine warre, haue not wished nor craued more of God almightie (for the benefit, welfare, and securitie of the sayd Netherlands, together with the good Inhabitants thereof) than to attaine vnto a godly, honourable, and an assured end of their sayd warres, as they also with all their hearts at this present still pray, desire and beseech God continually for the same. But for that by the sayd Instruction dated in May aforesayd (whereunto other Acts and Commissions haue a reference) it doth clearely and euidently appeare, that their sayd Highnesse do as yet continue in their vngrounded pretence, that a certaine right and title doth yet belong and appertaine vnto them, to and in the sayd Netherlands; whereas to the contrary the sayd States doe euidently, plainly, and without contradiction maintaine and holde, That their sayd Highnesse neither can nor may by any meanes (otherwise than by force and power of warre) pretend any right or title vnto the Vnited Prouinces whatsoeuer: And that to the contrary, the sayd Generall States of the Vnited Prouinces, vpon good and lawfull causes, haue alwayes esteemed, and with vndoubted right vnderstand, (for the vnion of the vnited Netherland Prouinces) That all the Prouinces, Townes, and Places, which for the maintenance of the sayd vnion, haue by force, and otherwise secretly by practise beene taken and surprized, with violation of the solemne decree, are decreed and may be holden (by weightie and mightie reasons) for a free State. Which decree for the space of seuen and twentie yeeres hitherwards, by diuers publike Acts and Decrees, and by the mightiest Kings and Potentates of *Europe* hath beene confirmed, as also the sayd States both for themselues and for all their deceased Adherents, (and as yet many thousands Well-willers to the freedome of the Netherlands, sighing vnder their Highnesse gouernment, desire to see a good end) by the speciall grace of God, the aid and assistance of the aforesayd Kings and Potentates, together with the vttermost meanes of the sayd Prouinces, Quarters, Townes and Inhabitants, by a commendable right, haue hitherto maintained,

ned, and are reſolued to maintaine and defend the ſame vnto the vttermoſt: and to that end the ſayd States vpon diuers the like offers and propoſitions (motioned not only by their ſayd Highneſſe and by the Emperours Maieſtie) haue declared, that it is neither godly, honourable, nor aſſured for them, to deale with thoſe who againſt the aforeſaid Decree holde and maintaine, and do inſiſt and alledge to haue right and title vnto the ſayd vnited Prouinces. In the which Decree the ſayd States perſiſting, doe holde and account themſelues to be blameleſſe and innocent before God almightie and all the world, and ſpecially the Netherlands, of all the miſeries, hurts, and troubles happened vnto the ſayd Netherlands and their neighbours, by meanes of the ſayd vnlawfull pretences, and from the proceedings, which they the ſayd States for the maintenance of their ſayd right, haue beene conſtrained to take in hand. Giuen in the *Hague* the ſeuen and twentieth of Ianuarie, 1608.

A DECLARATION

made and sent by the States Generall vnto all the Prouinces and Townes vnder their gouernment, touching the Peace to be made.

RIght Honorable and Worshipful: for that the common cause of the vnited Prouinces, by Gods speciall grace and fauour, is brought so farre, and to that end, that the Archdukes Highnesse, in March last past by three seuerall motions in writing, haue thought good to intreat and desire vs, as with States of free Countries and Prouinces, wherunto their Highnesse make no maner of pretence or title, to hearken vnto a treatie of peace, or truce, and abstinance from warres for many yeeres, with prouisionall exception from besieging and surprizing of Townes, and Forts, inuading or taking in of Prouinces and Quarters; as also of the making of new Forts, for the time of eight moneths next ensuing; that in the meane time, we may with them sit and determine vpon the said Treatie, and to make an end of the said Treatie before the first of September next comming: We with the aduice of his Excellencie, and the Counsell of Estate, hauing thought and esteemed it good, to accept and allow of the said motion and prouisionall exceptions, & also to proceed to a further Treatie, & thereof to giue our final resolution before the first of September next ensuing, and herewith send letters of commission to appeare, according to the contents of these presents.

preſents. And although we are wel aſſured that your Honors and Worſhips are ſufficiently informed and certified of this motion and buſineſſe in hand, yet we thought it good to aduertiſe you thereof, and of our intents and purpoſes, to aduertiſe and communicate the ſame, vnto and with the Kings of *Great Britane*, *France*, and *Denmarke*, as alſo with the Electors, and other Townes of the Empire, with whom theſe Vnited Prouinces are in league and amitie; that hauing vnderſtood their good intents, aduices, and counſels concerning theſe Vnited Prouinces, we may proceed to a farther and riper conſideration thereof heere in the ſaid Prouinces, and ſuch as ſhall be found meeteſt and beſt for the honor of God, the furthering of Chriſtian reformed religion, and the beſt ſeruice, and moſt aſſurance of the ſame, and of the Vnited Netherlands, and the Inhabitants thereof. And for that before all things, it is conuenient and neceſſarie that God Almightie ſhould with all our hearts be praiſed and thanked for his manie and ſpeciall graces, ſhewed and beſtowed towards and vpon theſe Countries, during theſe warres: and ſpecially, that it hath pleaſed him to mooue the hearts of the Archdukes, to make and motion the ſaid offers and propoſitions, as alſo to pray that it would pleaſe him, graciouſly to bleſſe the ſaid Treatie; that it may tend to the honor of his holie name, the maintenance and ſpreading abroad of his holie word; and of the Chriſtian reformed religion, together with the welfare and ſecuring of the Vnited Netherlands, and of the Inhabitants thereof: We haue thought it good, to ordaine and appoint, a generall Faſt, and day of prayer to be made and held in the Vnited Prouinces, vpon the 8. of Maie next enſuing: And therefore our deſire is, that your Honors ſhall cauſe the ſaid Faſting and Prayer day to be publiſhed and ploclaimed in al the places of the Prouinces of Holland and Weſt Freeſeland, according to the accuſtomed maner therein vſed: and to command that the ſame may be holden and celebrated accordingly, wherein you ſhall doe an acceptable peece of ſeruice, both vnto the Countrie and vs. Wherewith, Right

Honorable and Worſhipfull, and our ſpeciall good friends, we commit you to the protection of the Almighty. Dated &c. and vnder written,

Iohn van olden Barnevelt.

And lower there ſtood your ſpeciall good friends; the States Generall of the Vnited Prouinces of the Netherlands, and ſomewhat lower, by the ordinance of the ſayd States. Vnder written,

C. Aerſens.

THE FINAL ANSWER made by the ſayd Generall States *of the Vnited Prouinces, vnto the Commſſioners for the King of* Spaine *and the Archduke, aſſembled in the* Hague, *concerning Peace to be made.*

THE States generall of the Vnited Netherlands, hauing heard the report of their Deputies appointed to deale in the Treatie of Peace, touching that which was declared in the conference holden vpon the 20. of this moneth, by the Deputies for the High and Mightie King of Spaine, &c. and for *Albertus* and *Iſabella Clara ingenia*, Archdukes of Auſtria, &c. for the finall charge and commiſſion giuen them by the ſaid King and the Archdukes touching the generall points of the ſaid Treatie, vpon aduice of the Right Honorable *William* Earle of Naſſaue, &c. and the Counſell of Eſtate of the ſayd Vnited Prouinces, for reſolution thereupon, haue declared, and by theſe preſents doe declare, that the hurtfull fruits and iſſues of diuers fore-paſſed Treaties, during the Netherland warres, made with the King of Spaine laſt deceaſed, haue ſo much mooued the States Generall, for the ſpace of 25. yeeres together, both vpon the offers made in the behalfe of the ſaid King, his Gouernors and Succeſſours, as alſo at the motions and ſolicitations of the Emperours Maieſtie, together with the greateſt and chiefeſt Kings and Potentates of *Europe*, that they could not be perſwaded to enter into, or hearken vnto any new treatie of Peace,

but haue alwaies excuſed themſelues therein, fearing the like effects; ſo that alſo vpon the ſame Propoſitions made vnto them to the like end, in the moneth of Ianuarie 1607, in the behalfe of the high & mightie Princes the Arch dukes: they did roundly and by anſwer in writing declare, as alſo vnto the like propoſition not long before propounded by the Emperors maieſty; the ſaid States made anſwer, that they thought it neither godly, honorable, nor ſecure, for them to enter into any treatie of Peace, with thoſe, that contrarie to their Decree, maintained and eſtabliſhed, would ſeeme to oppoſe, or to iuſtifie themſelues to haue and pretend any title vnto the ſaid Countrie: and that withall, they did perſiſt, with proteſtation before God almightie, all the world, and ſpecially the Netherlands, to be blameleſſe and innocent of and concerning all the miſeries, hurts and troubles which the Netherlands, and their neighbours, together with the inhabitants thereof, by meanes of the aforeſaid vnlawfull pretences, haue ſuffered and indured, and yet were likely to ſuffer and endure. Which anſwer being returned vnto the ſaid Archdukes, not long after ſeuerall letters and writings ſubſcribed with their hands, were by the ſaid Arch-dukes ſent vnto the ſaid Generall eſtates, whereby they ſignified vnto them, that they were content to deale with them as with States of a free Countrey, (and for the which they ſo held and accounted both them and it, and whereunto they made not any pretence) touching a perpetuall Peace, or a truce and abſtinance from warres, for many yeeres. And in the firſt of the aforeſaid Acts it was ſaid, that by the making of a Truce euery man ſhould hold that which he held and poſſeſſed; and by the making of a Peace, that which ſhould be agreed vpon; as alſo that the Vnited Prouinces ſhould deſiſt and abſtaine from trafficking vnto the Eaſt and Weſt Indies, &c. Whereunto the ſaid States roundly made refuſall; which the ſaid Archdukes perceiuing, made anſwer, that they were content that euery man both by Truce and Peace ſhould poſſeſſe and enioy that which he held, and claimed to bee his owne, vnleſſe

that

that by exchange of any places by common consent, they could otherwise agree: and at the same time also the clause of desisting from trafficking and sailing vnto the East and West Indies, was omitted, according to their Act to that end made, bearing date the 13. of March, in the aforesaid yeere. Vpon the which Act the 12. of Aprill, after certaine points touching the nomination of their respectiues Committies, being agreed vpon betweene the Deputies for the said Arch-dukes, and the Generall States, vpon the foure & twentieth of the same moneth, by a formall instrument vnder written by their said Highnesse, and sealed with their great seales, and with their accustomed signatures and Paraphrases: and an other writing likewise sealed, Paraphrased, and vnder-written, in the behalfe of the Generall States, in qualitie as States of free Countries and Prouinces; whereunto the Arch-dukes did not pretend any right or title, it was agreed, and by their said Highnesse promised, to hold and obserue, and to cause to be holden and obserued the aforesaid declaration made vnto the said Generall States, and to make restitution, and cause the same to be made for all direct and indirect courses taken and vsed contrarie vnto the same, and besides those letters of confirmation, to cause the like declaration to bee sent from the King of Spaine (for as much as it concerned him) vnto the said Generall States, within three moneths then next ensuing, with all generall and particular renouncings, and assurances thereunto belonging. And thereupon the Truce for abstaining from all acts of hostilitie being also agreed vpon: There were three acts of confirmation and consent sent into *Holland* from the said king; two of them bearing date the last of Ianuarie; and one the eighteenth of March, in the yeere aforesaid: the last of them containing these words in effect. And for that the aforesaid Arch-duke our brother, hath promised to make the said Treatie, and thereupon to deliuer vnto the said States, our letters of ratification, and the like declaration, with all generall and particular renuntiations, and promises, as the cause requireth: Wee vpon ripe deliberati-

on and aduice, vpon our certaine knowledge, and absolute kingly power, for the holding and performing of the said promise, and the assuring of the principall Treatie of Peace, or of a long Truce to be made: doe by these presents make the like declaration vnto the States aforesaid, that our brother hath made, whereof mention is before made, forasmuch as the same concerneth vs: And specially we declare, that wee are well pleased and contented, that in our owne name, and in our behalfe, a Treatie shall be made with the said States, in qualitie, and as esteeming and holding them for free Countries, Prouinces and States; whereunto wee make no pretence of Soueraignitie: and also haue approoued, confirmed, and ratified, and by these presents doe approoue, confirme, and ratifie, all and euerie one of the points, comprehended and contained in the said Treatie: and promise by the word of a king to hold and obserue them all, and to cause them to be held and obserued as wholly and particularly, as if we had at the beginning thereof declared, consented and promised the same, and as if they had beene proceeded in, and concluded by our consent and authoritie, and will not do, nor cause any thing to be done contrarie vnto the same: and also will promise to recompence and make amends for all direct or indirect courses vsed and taken contrarie vnto the same, in such maner that all the aforesaid points shall be truely obserued, holden, and fulfilled vnto and with the said States: Whereunto we binde our selues by the word of a Prince, with all the generall and particular renuntiations and obligations therevnto requisite and needfull. We also promise, that as soon as the Treatie of Peace, or long Truce, shalbe concluded and agreed vpon, that wee will cause all dispatches necessarie to be made for the fulfilling and execution of that which shall be capitulated and agreed vpon, in good maner and forme, as they ought to be: so that in all things, and thorowout all the foresaid Vnited Prouinces, whole and full satisfaction shalbe made touching the aforesaid promise & confirmation, and with expresse reiection of all that which may be contrarie

or againſt the ſaid confirmation: and withall, expreſly declaring, that the Generall States, as States of free Countries, whereunto the King and the Arch-dukes make no pretence of Soueraigntie, by the grace of God Almightie, and the aide of their allies (nominating the Kings of *Great Britaine*, *France*, *Denmarke*, and other Potentates) which in the ſaid Prouinces ſhal and may take order and maintaine all cauſes that concerne the welfare of the State and gouernment (amongſt the which, before all, the point of Religion is to be maintained, and the ſame expreſly giuen in charge vnto the Arch-dukes Deputies) concerning the ſaid Prouinces, and the good Inhabitants thereof: ſo that in the chiefe Treatie, nothing ſhall or may be propounded againſt the ſame; (vnleſſe that men ſhould ſeeke to preuent and contrarie the aforeſaid formall and ſolemne promiſe.) Laſtly it was concluded by the Generall States, that the Deputies of the ſaid King and the Arch-dukes, might come vnto the *Hague*, there to intreat and agree vpon the ſaid Treatie, with full information, charge, and authoritie to ſhew their meanings plainly and ſincerely therein: as alſo to vnderſtand the States intent and meaning, that ſo they might make a ſhort and breefe reſolution therein.

The ſaid Deputies being come vnto the *Hague*, and hauing entred into Treatie with the Deputies of the ſaid States, at the beginning there was a new cleere and expreſſe promiſe and ratification made, not onely to the ſaide States, but alſo vnto all the particular Prouinces, and Lordſhips, thereunto depending, as alſo vnto the Quarters, Lordſhips, Townes and Places of other Prouinces holden by the ſaid States, according to the foreſaid promiſes, dated the 24. of Aprill, both in the name of the King of Spaine, and the Arch-dukes, being procured and to be procured from them, and all and euerie one of their heires and ſucceſſors, in their Kingdomes, Countries and States, decreeing and declaring that they pretend not any title in or vnto the aforeſaid Vnited Prouinces, Lordſhips, Lands, Townes and Places, as then holden and poſſeſſed by the ſaid States, and that they held and accounted them

for free States, Prouinces, Lordſhips, Countries, Townes and Places, with promiſe vpon their words and honours, and vpon the words of Princes, not to doe any thing contrary vnto the ſame, nor permit it to be done, (no not in vſing the names, titles, or armes of the ſaid Prouinces, or otherwiſe) directly or indirectly in any wiſe whatſoeuer: as alſo that from thenceforth, at all times and for euer, there ſhould be a good, firme, indiſſoluble Peace betweene the aforeſaid high and mightie King and the Archdukes their children, and ſucceſſors, and the aforeſayd States, in the qualitie aforeſayd, for all the Kingdomes, Lands, Lordſhips, Townes and Places which the aforeſayd Kings, Archdukes, and States held and poſſeſſed, with their reſpectiue ſubiects and inhabitants, which reſide therein at this time, or that hereafter ſhall dwell therein, without exception of any man whatſoeuer. Alſo, that the ſayd King and Archdukes, and the ſayd States, in qualitie aforeſaid, together with their reſpectiue ſubiects and inhabitants ſhould from thencefoorth liue in good friendſhip, without vſing any more hoſtilitie, with forgetting of all forepaſſed cauſes and actions. But in the proceſſe of the Treatie, the Deputies in the behalfe of the ſaid King and Arch-dukes, ſought to abridge and diminiſh the aforeſaid acknowledged freedome of the Vnited Prouinces, in the principalleſt point thereof, and to make it of no effect, as amongſt the reſt, expreſly in the generall trafficke and nauigation, with the conſequences thereof, wherein the chiefe and principall welfare of the aforeſaid Prouinces conſiſteth. Alſo, in the pretences (onely to the euident and manifeſt ouerthrow of the Vnited Prouinces, without cauſe or reaſon) of diſmembring ſome of the vnited Prouinces of that which without denial (according to the agreement made) belonged vnto them. Alſo in the diſputation touching the freedome and ſoueraigntie of certaine Townes, held and poſſeſſed by the States, as alſo of the Villages appointed for places of receit and accounts; in demanding of certaine lands, which by former Princes had been conquered, and otherwiſe, courtly ſpeaking of the point of Religion,

gion, without making any free or open propoſition thereof: and being vrged to ſpeake their mindes freely and fully therein, ſometime they ſaid, that they would not doe any thing contrarie to the freedome and ſoueraigntie (to the diſlike or diſcontentment of the States of the vnited Prouinces) touching the point of Religion; and yet at another time, they ſaid they muſt conſult with them of Spaine touching the point of Religion, and that touching the ſame, and concerning the point of generall traffycke and nauigation, ſome of them muſt expreſly goe into Spaine. And although that the aforeſaid States Generall, perceiuing the ſaid proceedings might well haue broken vp the ſaid Treatie, notwithſtanding conſidering the great importance thereof, and deſiring for their parts before God, and before all Kings, Potentates, Princes, and Common-wealths of Europe, and ſpecially before the Commons of the vnited Prouinces, to make knowne, that they with all their hearts, and vprightly deſire to alter and change the long, hurtfull, and bloodie warres of the Netherlands, into a godly, honorable, and an aſſured peace, for the comfort and vnburthening not onely of the Inhabitants of the Netherlands, but alſo of the neighbour countries and kingdomes; thought good by the aduice and good counſell of the Ambaſſadors of the Kings of *Great Britaine*, *France*, *Denmarke*, &c. and of the Euangelicall Electors and Princes of Germanie (who at their earneſt requeſts, were ſent vnto the Netherlands, to aide and aſſiſt them in the ſaid Treatie and buſineſſe of ſo great importance) that one of the Deputies for the King and the Arch-dukes, ſhould goe into Spaine, to vnderſtand the Kings abſolute intent and meaning, notwithſtanding it was expreſly ſignified and declared by the States, that they would not conſent vnto the like deliberation, but onely for that time, and that the ſaid Deputie ſhould expreſly returne againe with the ſaid reſolution, within two moneths then next after-enſuing. And to that end the Truce for the moneths of Aprill and May was continued and prolonged. After that by meanes of the long ſtaying of him

for free States, Prouinces, Lordſhips, Countries, Townes and Places, with promiſe vpon their words and honours, and vpon the words of Princes, not to doe any thing contrary vnto the ſame, nor permit it to be done, (no not in vſing the names, titles, or armes of the ſaid Prouinces, or otherwiſe) directly or indirectly in any wiſe whatſoeuer: as alſo that from thenceforth, at all times and for euer, there ſhould be a good, firme, indiſſoluble Peace betweene the aforeſaid high and mightie King and the Archdukes their children, and ſucceſſors, and the aforeſayd States, in the qualitie aforeſayd, for all the Kingdomes, Lands, Lordſhips, Townes and Places which the aforeſayd Kings, Archdukes, and States held and poſſeſſed, with their reſpectiue ſubiects and inhabitants, which reſide therein at this time, or that hereafter ſhall dwell therein, without exception of any man whatſoeuer. Alſo, that the ſayd King and Archdukes, and the ſayd States, in qualitie aforeſaid, together with their reſpectiue ſubiects and inhabitants ſhould from thencefoorth liue in good friendſhip, without vſing any more hoſtilitie, with forgetting of all forepaſſed cauſes and actions. But in the proceſſe of the Treatie, the Deputies in the behalfe of the ſaid King and Arch-dukes, ſought to abridge and diminiſh the aforeſaid acknowledged freedome of the Vnited Prouinces, in the principalleſt point thereof, and to make it of no effect, as amongſt the reſt, expreſly in the generall trafficke and nauigation, with the conſequences thereof, wherein the chiefe and principall welfare of the aforeſaid Prouinces conſiſteth. Alſo, in the pretences (onely to the euident and manifeſt ouerthrow of the Vnited Prouinces, without cauſe or reaſon) of diſmembring ſome of the vnited Prouinces of that which without denial (according to the agreement made) belonged vnto them. Alſo in the diſputation touching the freedome and ſoueraigntie of certaine Townes, held and poſſeſſed by the States, as alſo of the Villages appointed for places of receit and accounts; in demanding of certaine lands, which by former Princes had been conquered, and otherwiſe, couertly ſpeaking of the point of Religion,

gion, without making any free or open propoſition thereof: and being vrged to ſpeake their mindes freely and fully therein, ſometime they ſaid, that they would not doe any thing contrarie to the freedome and ſoueraignetie (to the diſlike or diſcontentment of the States of the vnited Prouinces) touching the point of Religion; and yet at another time, they ſaid they muſt conſult with them of Spaine touching the point of Religion, and that touching the ſame, and concerning the point of generall traffecke and nauigation, ſome of them muſt expreſly goe into Spaine. And although that the aforeſaid States Generall, perceiuing the ſaid proceedings might well haue broken vp the ſaid Treatie, notwithſtanding conſidering the great importance thereof, and deſiring for their parts before God, and before all Kings, Potentates, Princes, and Common-wealths of Europe, and ſpecially before the Commons of the vnited Prouinces, to make knowne, that they with all their hearts, and vprightly deſire to alter and change the long, hurtfull, and bloodie warres of the Netherlands, into a godly, honorable, and an aſſured peace, for the comfort and vnburthening not onely of the Inhabitants of the Netherlands, but alſo of the neighbour countries and kingdomes; thought good by the aduice and good counſell of the Ambaſſadors of the Kings of *Great Britaine*, *France*, *Denmarke*, &c. and of the Euangelicall Electors and Princes of Germanie (who at their earneſt requeſts, were ſent vnto the Netherlands, to aide and aſſiſt them in the ſaid Treatie and buſineſſe of ſo great importance) that one of the Deputies for the King and the Arch-dukes, ſhould goe into Spaine, to vnderſtand the Kings abſolute intent and meaning, notwithſtanding it was expreſly ſignified and declared by the States, that they would not conſent vnto the like deliberation, but onely for that time, and that the ſaid Deputie ſhould expreſly returne againe with the ſaid reſolution, within two moneths then next after-enſuing. And to that end the Truce for the moneths of April and May was continued and prolonged. After that by meanes of the long ſtaying of him

that was ſent into Spayne, before the end of the moneth of May, the aforeſaid Truce by common conſent, was prolonged vntill the laſt of December laſt paſt: but the States once again and plainly told the Deputies for the ſaid King and the Arch-dukes, that their meaning was, within two moneths at the fartheſt, after the moneth of May, they would haue a finall end and breaking vp of the ſaid Treatie. Whereupon as in the beginning of the moneth of Iune, and after from time to time, diuers letters and aduices were brought and came from ſeuerall Countries and Kingdomes, that the ſaid king of Spaine and the Spaniſh Counſell did not proceed truly and vprightly in the ſaid Treatie, but by delaies and all the meanes they could, ſought to vndermine the State of the vnited Prouinces: Preſently thereupon, as about the middle of Iune, the ſaid Deputies for the King and the Arch-dukes were aduertiſed by the Generall States of the ſaid aduice ſent them, with earneſt requeſt by them made, to vnderſtand and know their vttermoſt intent and meaning: and withall it being told them, that notwithſtanding the Truce was prolonged and continued for the whole yeere, yet it was the States meaning, not to ſuffer the delay of the end of the ſayd Treatie any longer than vntill the laſt of Iuly, and that they might then preſently breake vp and depart, if their intents were not to bring the Treaty to any good end: Whereupon the ſayd Deputies made anſwer, That they held thoſe aduices to be wholly vntrue, and that they were otherwiſe fully certified and aſſured, after that ſome few dayes, before the expiration of the moneth of Iuly, certifying the States, that they had aduice out of *Spaine*, that the Commiſſarie generall was commanded to attend at the Court vpon the fifteenth of Iuly, to receiue his diſpatch, and that without doubt hee would be there very ſhortly: whereupon the matter being conſidered of, vntill the twentieth of Auguſt, and in the meane time newes of the continuance of the King of *Spaines* intent comming from all places, it was thought good the ſame day to haue another conference with the ſayd Deputies, to vnder-

ſtand

ſtand their vttermoſt authoritie and meanings: who at the ſame time declared, That the King of *Spaines* and the Archdukes reſolute intents were, that the agreement made ſhould be obſerued and kept, and that the vnited Prouinces by their ſayd acknowledgement and agreement ſhould be free and ſouereigne countreys, without pretence of any right, vaſſallage, or other ſouereignty to be ſought or pretended by them therein or thereunto, vpon condition that in regard thereof, the Romiſh Catholike religion ſhould be reeſtabliſhed in the ſayd Prouinces; and that the ſubiects and inhabitants of the ſayd Prouinces ſhould preſently and from that time forth leaue off and deſiſt from trade, traffike, and nauigation into *India*; declaring alſo, that they ſtill perſiſted in the difficulties touching the raiſing of conuoyes, the diſmembring of the Dukedome of *Gelder*, touching all the high quarter thereof, the holding of the places vpon and being on the other ſide of the *Reyn*, as alſo vpon the borders of the Empire, which without all controuerſie are neutrall Townes, belonging to the territories of the Empire, as alſo touching the pretence of villages and the head banks or chambers of accounts in Townes belonging vnto the States in other Prouinces; alſo that the Archdukes ought to enioy the lands belonging vnto the Princes of the houſes of *Burgondie* and *Auſtria*, being Lords in the time of the reſpectiue vnited Prouinces. And for that the moſt part of the aforeſayd points can not be holden nor eſteemed, but as pretences againſt thedecreed, maintained, confirmed and confeſſed freedome of the vnited Prouinces, and conſequently, openly repugning againſt the ſayd Treatie and the confirmation thereof, and withall againſt the firſt Article that is thereby agreed vpon: therefore the States Generall of the vnited Prouinces vnderſtand, that they for the ſtate of the ſayd countreys, and of the good inhabitants thereof, can not finde it good to enter into any further Treatie with the ſayd Deputies, being heartily ſory, that contrary to their intents, the ſayd Treatie hath been ſo vnprofitably broken off, neuertheleſſe contenting themſelues, that they, before God

and all the world, may be held inculpable, that the bloodie and long continued warres of the Netherlands are not changed into a Christian, honourable, and an assured peace, and a finall end made and procured of all the calamities, miseries, hurts, and hinderances which the sayd Netherlands, and their neighbors, together with the good inhabitants of the same haue endured, and are like to endure, by meanes of the vnlawfull pretences of their aduerse parties.

Done in the *Hague* in full assemblie of
the Generall States of the
vnited Prouinces,
&c.